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COMMITTEE GO TO WASHINGTON.

Will Present Gloucester's Case Before Ways and Means Committee Today.

Delegation Includes Prominent Business Men and Master Mariners.

On the 5.04 o'clock train out of this city last evening departed a body of most distinguished residents, including master mariners and business men of the city, en route for Washington to lay before the committee on ways and means of congress, arguments which should be deemed conclusive why fish should not be admitted to this country from Canada free of duty.

They depart on their mission with the best wishes of a large majority of the people for their success.

Last Wednesday, this committee at the meeting of the Board of Trade and Master Mariners' Association was appointed, but it has been added to from time to time. This action was taken in view of the fact that the reciprocity agreement between the United States and Canada had been agreed upon, although not made public, and it was thought that local interests had been jeopardized, and the committee was appointed, to be in readiness to go on to Washington whenever they should receive word by telegram to come from Congressman A. P. Gardner, and the message came yesterday noon.

President Thomas J. Carroll of the Board of Trade had been in Washington up to Saturday. On his return, he did not have much to say, but fully realized the gravity of the situation.

The committee did not have much time for preparation, but they were under marching orders, so to speak, ready to start at any minute, so they were not found wanting when the summons came.

The party included Thomas J. Carroll, president of the Board of Trade; Capt. George Peeples, president of the Master Mariners' Association; Capt. Charles H. Harty, Benjamin A. Smith, Frank E. Peares, Orlando Merobay, Fred L. Davis, Freeman H. Brown, the champion fish skinner of the world; E. Archer Bradley, William F. Moore, Fred Bradley, Hon. Sylvanus Smith, Mayor Isaac Patch, Capt. William H. Thomas and Arthur L. Millett.

Capt. Henry M. Atwood, William G. Brown, Capt. Lemuel E. Spinney and D. Parkhurst Gale, who are members of the committee, were unable to accompany their associates.

Capt. Thomas M. Nicholson of Bucksport, Me., was invited to join the party.

They left Boston last night at 8 o'clock on the Federal express and arrived at the capital this morning at 7 o'clock. On arriving they were met by Congressman Gardner and arrangements were made to have them present their views before the committee today and they will probably be home tomorrow.

Excitement Resulting From Announcement of Agreement Subsiding.

After the storm and stress of the past few days, during which the people of this city were aroused to a high pitch of intense excitement, owing to the calamity which threatens their ancient and staple industry, the fisheries, by reason of the proposed reciprocity agreement between the United States and Canada, things have settled down

in a measure to their normal condition and while there is still a note of anxiety sounded on every hand, the tendency is to be patient and hopeful under the trying circumstances which exist.

The citizens in general have the fullest confidence in the committee which is at present at Washington to present their side of the situation in a true light which cannot be misunderstood or misinterpreted, and under those circumstances, there is nothing to do but wait with all possible fortitude the outcome of the deliberations of the committee on ways and means and the report which that committee will make to congress after hearing what Gloucester's representative and authorized citizens will say upon the subject.

Now that the first throbbing, pulsing, nerve-racking strain is over, the people as a whole are settling down to a calmer deliberation of the subject and this is well, as nothing can be gained by hasty judgment or too prompt willingness to jump to conclusions.

The agreement has not been ratified by congress yet in fact, it is a long ways from that stage. The committee will first have to consider the subject giving all parties a chance to be heard and then they must thresh it out and report according to their views.

Favorable Report on Agreement Predicted.

There seems to be little doubt as to what the committee will do and that agreement on their action seems to be that they will report favorably upon the agreement.

Then it is up to the senate and house of representatives.

A. Maurice Low, writing from Washington to the Boston Globe, expresses the opinion that the reciprocity agreement will pass, and that democratic support makes President Taft confident of victory, despite the opposition of Eugene Hale of Maine and Congressman A. P. Gardner of this city.

In treating the subject, among other things, Mr. Low says:

"In concluding the reciprocity agreement with Canada and asking congress to ratify it, President Taft has either still further demoralized the badly demoralized republican party and made it impossible to recover lost ground next year or he has so immensely strengthened himself with the country that his chances for carrying his party through to victory are better now than they have been at any time since the passage of the Payne tariff bill, which the President signed reluctantly.

"Which is the correct point of view remains to be determined, but it is the great question which is now occupying the attention of the republican members of congress. They are beginning to hear from their constituents and they are still much at sea, for the reports they receive are conflicting. There is no section of the country that is unanimously enthusiastic over the agreement or united in condemning it; the sentiment is so mixed that it will take some skill on the part of men with their ears close to the ground to determine whether more is to be made or lost by standing by the President or opposing him."

Democratic Votes Largely to Carry the Measure.

This is the general opinion. That the McCall bill will pass the House is now conceded. Some of the Republican members of the committee may not vote for the bill, although even that is doubtful, but the Democratic members will make up any possible Republican defection. Mr. Gardner admits that there is no chance of killing the bill in committee, much as he would like to have that happen. There is apparently no chance of defeating the bill on the floor of the House.

If the opponents of the bill could count upon Democratic support the situation would be entirely different, but the Democrats are for the bill and feel so confident of its passage by the House. Administration pressure will make Republicans vote for the bill who dislike it and who have said they would like to see it defeated.

Mr. Gardner is finding out that there is a difference between the way men talk and eventually vote. He was busy yesterday circulating his petition for the signatures of men opposed to the bill, but he is making slow progress. He would not disclose the number of men who have signed his paper, but it is evident that he has still many names to secure if he hopes to do anything.

"I find in matters of any kind," he said, "that a great many men will say that they are against a bill, but will talk when it comes to putting themselves on record in black and white. My object in circulating this petition is to find out just how many men will stand up. After I have got all the names on the petition that I can get I will know how to carry on the fight."

Mr. Gardner has gained one important victory. He has been granted a hearing by the ways and means committee on fish. The committee is anxious to report the bill back to the House with the least possible delay, but some other interests may ask for hearing, and it is not likely that the bill can be taken up in the house within a week or 10 days.

Sentiment of New England Not Unanimous.

There is no unanimity of sentiment in New England, although New England has perhaps a greater interest in the proposed legislation than any other part of the country. Some of the Massachusetts members of the house are in favor of the agreement, but others are violently opposed to it. Mr. Gardner considers it injurious, not only because of the harm it may do to the fishing interests, but also because of the competition the farmer will have to meet from the Canadian farmer.

Senator Hale is not in sympathy with the president's policy to open the doors of the custom house to Canada. Mr. Hale retires from the senate in the course of a few weeks and therefore he has nothing to fear politically from his action. He is a member of the finance committee, to which the McCall bill will be referred when it passes the house.

Mr. Hale, it was reported at the senate yesterday, will endeavor to block the bill in the finance committee, or at least so delay it that the time will be too short to admit of its passage at the present session. Whether he can be successful cannot be said at this time, but it is rumored that the Republican members of the committee are not unanimous in favor of the measure and that Mr. Hale will not have to make his fight single-handed.

Senator Page of Vermont is not yet certain whether the agreement is for the advantage of his state.

Yet he wants to take a broad view of the matter and consider whether in its general effects the country will not gain more from the larger commercial relations with Canada than any particular section of the country will lose. Senator Page, like a good many other men in congress, is waiting to hear from his constituents before definitely announcing whether he will vote for the bill or oppose it.

It is the general belief in congress that the agricultural interests throughout the country will oppose the Cana-

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dian agreement as will also the high protection manufacturers.

Legislature Will Give Hearing Monday Afternoon.

There were further Canadian reciprocity suggestions in the lower branch of the state legislature yesterday afternoon. Representative Cushing of Boston introduced resolutions, which were referred to the rules committee for admission, indorsing President Taft's programme and commending the bill submitted to congress.

The resolutions express the opinion of the legislators of Massachusetts "that reciprocity with Canada substantially in accordance with the bill introduced by Hon. Samuel W. McCall and now pending in the senate and in the house of representatives should be at once enacted into law."

Representative Crane of Cambridge offered another proposition in the shape of an order directing the legislative committee on federal relations to investigate "the proposed reciprocity agreement between the United States and Canada, with the object of ascertaining the sentiment of Massachusetts, and to report its findings and recommendations not later than February 5, 1911."

This order was also referred to the committee on rules.

At a meeting of the joint rules committee after adjournment of the branches it was voted that the committee give a hearing on the Crane order in room 240 on Monday next at 3 p. m.

The house committee on rules voted to hear the Cushing resolution on the same afternoon after the joint committee had concluded its hearing.

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THREE ARRIVALS AT T WHARF.

SCH. MORNING STAR WAS THREE DAYS MAKING PASSAGE FROM GEORGES.

Only three arrivals are reported arriving at Boston today with small fares of fresh fish.

They all report the storm one of the worst experienced this winter, and when off Thatcher's Island, the schs. Robert and Arthur and Morning Star lost jumbo boom and sail.

The market today has advanced from that of yesterday, owing to an insufficient supply of fish which the trade demand. It was expected that the arrivals today would be small, as the heavy gale of yesterday would not permit the off-shore vessels to arrive and the shore boats was unable to go out.

The outlook for the next few days is not good for a heavy supply of fish, for the rough weather the past few days would prevent those on the ground from fishing.

Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are:
Sch. Robert and Arthur, 40,000 haddock, 5000 cod.
Sch. Morning Star, 50,000 haddock, 4000 cod, 1000 pollock.
Sch. Hattie F. Knowlton, 700 haddock, 300 cod, 400 pollock.
Haddock, \$2.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$6; market cod, \$4.

WERE THREE WEEKS ON TRIP.

Crew of Sch. Kineo Shared From \$82 to \$150 on Halibut Voyage.

Capt. Nathaniel Greenleaf of sch. Kineo, who arrived at Portland Saturday from a halibut trip, made a fine stock of \$2350, the average share for the crew being \$82, while some of them who had handline fish shared high as \$150.

Capt. Greenleaf, who is the oldest fresh halibut skipper in the business, has commenced the new year very auspiciously for he was absent but three weeks on his present trip, so that the voyage is a remarkably good one. As a halibut catcher, Capt. Greenleaf has a most enviable record for making big trips and has to his credit many of the largest stocks ever made in this fishing.

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Lobsters From Nova Scotia.

The steamer Boston, from Yarmouth, N. S., on her last trip to Boston had among her cargo 1035 crates of live lobsters which sold at \$26 for large and \$16 for small, per crate.

Halibut at Portland.

Sch. Senator, Capt. Adelbert Nickerson, arrived at Portland yesterday with 25,000 pounds of fresh halibut, which sold for 15 and 13 cents per pound for white and gray.

Halibut Stock and Share.

The fare of fresh halibut landed from sch. Mooween, Capt. Daniel McDonald, realized a stock of \$4000, the crew sharing \$103 each for their three weeks work.

Took Herring to Boston.

Sch. Monarch sailed for Boston today where her cargo of frozen herring which she brought from Newfoundland will be disposed of.

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BAY OF ISLANDS HERRING CARGO.

THE ONLY FISHING ARRIVAL IN THE WATER FRONT THIS MORNING.

There are no ground fish at this port today, and the only fishing arrival is sch. Judique from Bay of Islands, N. F., with a full cargo of 1000 barrels of salt herring and 300 barrels of frozen herring. This is one of the best and largest fares received at this port this winter from Newfoundland, and reflects much credit upon Capt. McLean, her energetic master.

The shore craft operating off here did not venture out yesterday, owing to the heavy gale which prevailed.

While the weather is more moderate the wind is still too strong for this mosquito fleet to venture out, so that the accessory to the local fish receipts will not be augmented for some days.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:
Sch. Judique, Bay of Islands, 1000 lbs. salt herring, 300 bbls. frozen herring.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Stiletto, haddocking.
Sch. Catherine D. Enos, shore.
Sch. Monarch, Boston, to discharge cargo of frozen herring.

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Today's Fish Market.

Bay of Islands salt herring, \$4.12 1-2 per bbl., Bonne Bay salt herring, \$3.62 1/2 per bbl., pickled herring \$5 per bbl.

Eastern deck handline salt cod, \$5.55 per cwt.; for large \$5 for mediums and \$5 for snappers.

Bank halibut 14 3-4 cts. per lb. for white, 11 cts. for gray, with the heads on.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.

Salt haddock, \$2 per cwt.

Salt hake, \$2 per cwt.

Salt pollock, \$2 per cwt.

Splitting prices for fresh fish:

Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.

Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium \$1.30; snappers, 50c.

Haddock, \$1.30 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.30 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.

Georges handline salt cod, \$5.55 for large and \$5.50 for medium.

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The lobster fishermen of Maine caught this last year, 19,936,452 lobsters, which is 2,000,000 more than were caught the preceding year. The price received for these lobsters was just a little over 10 cents apiece. The price paid for them, well, just try to remember what you paid for the last one you bought, or the last piece of lobster you had in a restaurant.

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SEVEN ARRIVALS AT BOSTON.

PRICES TAKE UPWARD TURN AS RESULT OF LIGHT RECEIPTS.

The arrivals at Boston today comprise seven vessels and with exception of one all are from off-shore and bring fairly good trips.

Schs. Romance and Onato lead with 55,000 and 43,000 pounds of haddock, and cod respectively. Sch. Pontiac, Capt. Enos Nickerson, who has been making such a phenomenal record, is also in with 15,000 pounds and the steam trawler Ripple made her appearance after an absence of six days, with a good fare of 45,000 pounds of haddock.

The market is strong for all kinds of fresh fish have advanced this week, owing to the limited number of arrivals whose fares are far from being sufficient to supply demand.

Haddock is quoted at high water mark, and is bringing three to seven cents in cargo lots, while cod is selling at five to six cents.

It looks now as if there would be a great scarcity of fresh fish the next few days for the heavy gale that has prevailed the last week, prevented the vessels out from fishing.

Then it should be remembered that the weather has been such and which is still prevailing that the shore fishermen have been unable to get out, so that fish from that source will not be in evidence the next few days. Better results, however, should be in order next week for the vessels doubtless will return whether they have fares or not.

Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are:
Sch. Pontiac, 4000 haddock, 3000 cod, 6000 hake.
Sch. Motor, 2000 haddock, 2100 cod.
Sch. Romance, 35,000 haddock, 20,000 cod.
Sch. Mary B. Greer, 37,000 haddock, 1900 cod, 1000 pollock.
Steamer Ripple, 45,000 haddock, 500 cod, 3000 pollock.
Sch. Onato, 39,000 haddock, 4000 cod.
Sch. Monarch, 150,000 frozen herring.
Haddock, \$3 to \$7 per cwt.; large cod, \$5.50 to \$6; market cod, \$3 to \$4; hake, \$3; pollock, \$3 to \$3.50; cusk, \$1.75 to \$3.25.

Nova Scotia Life Saving Stations.

Through the energetic work of S. W. W. Pickup, M. P., for Annapolis, N. S., two life saving stations within the very near future are to be established in Digby Gut. Since the department was organized a few years ago, Mr. Pickup has fought hard for this, claiming that owing to heavy seas and dense fogs the Gut at times is dangerous for navigation. Commander Henry Thompson, of the department of marine and fisheries, Ottawa, dominion inspector of life saving stations, who arrived in the city yesterday, said that the department was at present making arrangements to establish two stations in the Gut, one at Victoria Beach and the other at Parker's Island. As a matter of fact a lifeboat would be sent immediately to Victoria Beach, which was probably the more dangerous spot of the two.

High Price of Fish Due to Scarcity.

Fanatics, who from time to time fire off a tirade of abuse about the high cost of living being due to the storing of foodstuffs ought to get a peep into the refrigerating plants, supposed to be the strongholds of the fish dealers. They would be surprised. Fish is very high in Chicago. Why? Because the fish cold storage plants are empty, while prices of green fish make it almost prohibitive except for the wealthy. Almost the same condition prevails here. The few pounds that may be there will be exhausted weeks before Lent ends. The salvation of fish eaters will be the fact that weather conditions will be better than at this time and fishermen may be able to make catches.

Another New Fishing Schooner for Digby.

Digby, N. S., will have another up-to-date fishing schooner added to her already modern fleet. Capt. Joseph Snow, owner of sch. Loren B. Snow, has given an order to Mr. McGill, Shelburne's well known builder, for a 95-ton schooner from the latest designed model, to be completed by October 1, furnished with all modern fittings and rigged in the most up-to-date manner possible at the time of her completion.